

2-3-2006

The Hilltop 2-3-2006

Hilltop Staff

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THE HILLTOP

The Daily Student Voice of Howard University

VOLUME 89, NO. 79

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2006

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM

FRIDAY notebook

WEATHER

FRI, 2/3:
AM SHOWERS
HIGH: 62, LOW: 45



SAT, 2/4:
SHOWERS
HIGH: 50, LOW: 37



SUN, 2/5:
PARTLY CLOUDY/
WIND
HIGH: 41, LOW: 31



BREAKING NEWS

NEW MAJORITY LEADER

REP. JOHN BOEHNER FROM OHIO WAS CHOSEN AS THE NEW HOUSE MAJORITY LEADER YESTERDAY, REPLACING TOM DELAY WHO WAS FORCED TO STEP DOWN, ACCORDING TO THE WASHINGTONPOST.COM.

CAMPUS

CAR CHASE AROUND CAMPUS

FIND OUT WHAT ENSUED AFTER A CAR REARENDED ANOTHER AND HOW CLOSE IT WAS TO HOWARD.

PAGE 2



NATION & WORLD

A NEW SAINT?

TURN TO NATION AND WORLD TO SEE WHO IS TRYING TO MAKE THURGOOD MARSHALL A SAINT. MORE INSIDE.

PAGE 4



SPORTS

SUPERBOWL MANIA

THE SUPER BOWL IS MORE THAN JUST A GAME; IT'S A CULTURE. FIND OUT HOW THE SUPER BOWL EFFECTS EVERYONE IN SPORTS.

PAGE 9



HU CALENDAR

FEB 13
DEADLINE FOR 50%
REFUND OF TUITION/FEES

FEB 15
PRIORITY FAFSA DEADLINE

FEB 20
PRESIDENTS DAY - NO CLASS

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Recording The Story



Television cameras filmed at yesterday's scene of an apparent suicide. An unidentified female police officer was found dead in a lavatory at the District's Unified Emergency Call Center located near the Tubman Quadrangle and the reservoir.

Derrill Smith - Asst. Photo Editor

Privacy a Main Concern at Clinics

BY MORGAN NEVILLES-MOORE
Hilltop Staff Writer

Going to the health center isn't exactly a field trip for students, and now it has become an uneasy experience for some female students who are used to seeing their health care provider in an all-female setting.

"It takes some getting used to. At home I can expect every one in the waiting room to be female, its more of a comfort and privacy thing than anything else," said Mellissa Whitman, sophomore international business major.

The women's clinic has not always been directly joined to the Student Health Center; this change came about in 2003 when they moved to a more modern facility.

"When the Student Health Center was located on 6th and College streets. NW, the Women's Clinic was in a separate building. This was due to the lack of space in the main health center building," said Lynette Munday, M.D., associate director of the student health center.

Although located in the same floor space as the general student health clinic, the Women's Clinic is still functioning and effective for students.

"At the current time, we do not have the space to move the clinic elsewhere," Munday said.

She added that it was taken into consideration that there was not much room when the Student Health Center moved.

"[We] located the

Women's Clinic in one side of the Student Health Center floor with its own separate nursing station," Munday said. "What we do not have is a separate waiting area for those students coming in for services in the women's clinic. Our space is limited and we have done what we could to continue to maintain a women's clinic."

The health center operates as any other facility of its kind; the reception area is where students complete the necessary forms to be seen by a physician no matter the particular clinic.

"Upon arrival to the Student Health Center, we ask all students to complete the processing form," Munday said. "This allows them to document their reason for their visit. We ask this info in order to

properly schedule them with the right provider and in an appropriate appointment slot.

Munday said students who would like to discuss their issue fully are taken out of the reception area to protect privacy and confidentiality.

"We actively discourage students from verbally giving us any info that may breach privacy and confidentiality at the reception area," she said.

Not all students see the current system as the most effective way of getting things done.

"I understand the reasons for the clinics to be together, and I do think that for the most part student confidentiality is taken seriously," said senior graphic design major Tiffany Micheals.

"However, there are times when something can be said aloud without thought, that's when the idea of a separate clinic comes into play."

Because privacy and confidentiality are important, the Health Center is currently taking steps to better the situation for all involved, including looking into purchasing devices to reduce voice transmission because the clinic space is not sound proof.

"It is always important that students actively participate in decisions that affect them," Munday said.

She continued that students' ideas are welcome, and to contact the Health Center through email at lmunday@howard.edu, or stop by and share them.



Due to limited space, female students visiting the Women's Clinic use the same facilities as those seeking general care, causing discomfort for some.

Battle of the HU Alumni: Fenty Speaks

BY KEVIN HARRIS
Senior Editor

Though he may be the youngest candidate in the race to replace D.C. Mayor Anthony Williams at age 35, council member Adrian Fenty (D-Ward 4) may have seniority where it counts the most.

Of all the candidates running this year, Fenty has been campaigning the longest and the most aggressively. Being the early bird in the race is paying off for Fenty's campaign, as recently-filed finance reports show he is leading in money raised. Preliminary polling also shows that Fenty's message is taking hold with many District residents. He is ahead of his biggest rival and fellow Howard University alum, Chairwoman Linda Cropp, in both campaign cash and potential votes.

Though ahead, Fenty said in an exclusive interview with *The Hilltop* that he still considers his bid for mayor to be quite competitive.

"I take nothing for granted," he said in an interview from his campaign headquarters. "The only polls that matter are the ones from September 12th," the day District voters pick a new mayor.

Many local pundits watching the race agree that Fenty should not take his early lead for granted.

Some note that historically, the early front-runner for Washington's Mayor does not win. Also, pundits say that for a candidate who has been exploring a mayoral bid for two years, Fenty's lead over Cropp in both cash and potential votes can easily be lost over the next several months. Even so, Fenty says his campaign can defy the odds, because despite the improvements made in the city during the Williams years, many residents feel left out of the current prosperity and are ready for a change.

More than any other demographic, Fenty's campaign appears to be striking a chord among young District voters. Fenty said he is doing well among young voters because he has actively sought their support. "I think young people are really excited by politicians who knock on doors and go out into the community and really try and provide hope and inspiration in the way that they do business," Fenty said.

Though he is far behind Cropp in legislative experience (something she has not been shy of reminding District voters) Fenty said he believes his work ethic can overcome any uneasiness residents may feel about electing someone who has only held elected office for six years. Also, Fenty dismissed talk that Cropp, who has three decades of experience in local politics, could beat him because she has spent more time in elective office. "I think people are responding to my campaign because they want somebody with ener-



DC Councilman Adrian Fenty responded to comments made by Linda Cropp.

gy, passion, and profound commitment," Fenty said. "I have a record of all of those things."

Fenty's campaign may have the opportunity to broaden its reach beyond young voters and into some middle to lower income residents who are against the building of a new stadium for the National League's Washington Nationals.

Fenty opposes the deal, arguing that the city cannot afford to pay at least \$500 million for the stadium, while Cropp is a strong supporter who says that having the stadium will increase city revenues that can be spent on social services like healthcare and affordable housing programs. So far, Fenty seems to be getting the better of Cropp in the stadium debate. Many residents oppose the deal because of its costs and Cropp has been attacked at public appearances because of her support.

But Cropp said earlier yesterday in an interview with *The Hilltop*, that she believes a stadium deal will be reached and that politicians like Fenty are purposefully misleading residents. Cropp said that the stadium will actually be paid for using a special tax on businesses, tickets, and national's merchandise, as well as rent from the team. "...if we voted today not to have the stadium there would not be any additional money that could be utilized for other things for individual citizens [...] we get money from the stadium we don't lose money from the stadium," Cropp told the Hilltop.

Fenty dismissed Cropp's assertion that he and others opposing the stadium deal are misleading residents to score political points.

"A huge majority of D.C. residents do not support the current deal because it puts too much of a public subsidy into the construction of a baseball stadium," Fenty said. "That's why I'm not supporting it. This has nothing to do with politics."

Though he and Cropp disagree on a new stadium deal, both have expressed to *The Hilltop* their desire to create affordable housing and an improved school system for residents. Also, both have offered support for the construction of a new hospital that is set to be built jointly between the District and Howard University.

Collaborations and Special Courses Often Overlooked

BY SHANAE HARRIS
Asst. Campus Editor

While courses such as Communications Law, Humanities, and Afro-American studies seem to always have an overload of students and a waiting list of those who want overrides, schools and colleges around campus have many unknown special courses that are open and empty for students to take.

Schools like School of Business Divinity have recently been offering special courses with titles including The Law and Business of Sports, Entrepreneurship for Non-Business Majors, and Principles and Practice of Real Estate.

"Some of the courses that are special to our school are Corporate Culture, Sports Marketing, Multi-Cultural Marketing, Venture Capital,

Project Capital, Project management, and Information Security," said Dean of the School of Business, Mr. Barron H. Harvey.

Students from the Business School say that while they have heard word that the special courses are available, some did not know that they had an option to take them.

"I have been taking courses in the Business school even though I am an undecided major. After hearing some of the courses available like 'sports marketing' and 'the law of business of sports' I think I will go into a Business major since I also love sports," said Randy Bryant, freshman undecided major.

The College of Arts and Sciences, in collaboration with the School of Divinity, offer Survey of the Old Testament and Survey of the New Testament. The courses have grown

in popularity since the program first began last semester.

The School of Communications, in collaboration with financial news wire Reuters, has a Special Reporting class that five students attend once a week at the Washington Bureau.

"I think it's a great opportunity because Reuters is such a famous organization," said Elliot Jones, a junior print journalism major. "I like it because it gives me a chance to learn about something I don't know that much about."

The School of Engineering, according to Dean James H. Johnson, Jr., includes special courses consisting of Power Communications and Control, Introduction to MEMS, and State of the Art Research and Technical Entrepreneurship.

"Introduction to MEMS is a course that analyzes and designs min-

iature electromechanical systems and devices. This technology area (with Nanotechnology) is in the process of transforming the world as we know it. This course is on-line team taught by faculty from Howard and the University of Michigan," said Dr. Mohammad Chouikha, Chairperson.

While schools like Divinity and Engineering have given students a chance to take various special courses, others have a strict curriculum to ensure that their students gain basic concepts.

Dean Leo Rouse of the College of Dentistry said that, "the College of Dentistry course load and curriculum is set for 4 years of dental study. We do not run special courses but maintain current and contemporary concepts in dental education to enhance teaching and learning for our students through innovative technology."

The College of Arts and Sciences provides special courses specialized for students that are in the honors program.

According to the University website, The Honors Program curriculum provides special courses through which students satisfy general education requirements and receive intensified learning and research opportunities in the major.

Cory Riddle, sophomore member of the Arts and Sciences Honors program said that the courses offered are slightly different than regular courses.

"We have a more rigorous curriculum. The classes are very in-depth and I can sometimes see the difference between them and my non-honors courses," Riddle said.

High Speed Chase Goes Through Campus, Ends At Carver



There was a high speed chase that went through 4th Street and ended in Le Droit Park, near Carver Hall at about midnight yesterday. The police were pursuing a gray Cadillac Coupe Deville, which bore Virginia license plates when the car crashed into a parked Toyota Matrix. There was a heavy police presence at the scene, but officials declined to comment.

Photo by Arnold Foster

Campus Briefs



North Carolina Central University SOB Loses Accreditation

The Business school at North Carolina Central University recently lost its accreditation after the former dean Benjamin Newhouse failed to submit the re-accreditation papers in time. After previously filing for a one year extension to submit the papers Newhouse still failed to meet the deadline. The school which lost its accreditation by the well-known Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs is working to regain accreditation quickly. In some cases, accreditation can take up to anywhere from 18 months to 3 years. But since the school was previously accredited the ACBSP and school officials speculate that it will not take N.C. Central that long.



Prairie View Wins Best Band in Atlanta

For the past three years, Prairie View A&M has dominated the Honda Battle of the Bands held each year in the Georgia Dome in Atlanta, Georgia. This year the Marching Storm, once again, took home the title for the third year in a row. To show school spirit over 500 faculty, staff and students made the trek to Atlanta to see their favorite band perform in the event. The crowd in the Dome which was estimated to be in the tens of thousands rose to give the Marching Thunder a standing-ovation at the end of their performance.

The Honda Battle of the Bands occurs annually to showcase the top 10 high college marching bands.



Duke University Receives Record Number of Applications

The number of applications sent to Duke University in Durham, North Carolina during the past couple of years has been rapidly increasing. So far this year, Duke has received an overall total of 19,282 applications from prospective high school seniors. The extremely high number is an increase of 1,193 more applications than last year and 4,572 more applications than five years ago. The school reports that the deepening of the applicant pool is due to a number of reasons like the recently opened Fitzpatrick Center of Interdisciplinary Engineering, Mathematics and Applied Sciences. This year's applicant pool is also more diverse with over 40% of applicants coming from an ethnic background.



Brown University Prepares for Bird-Flu

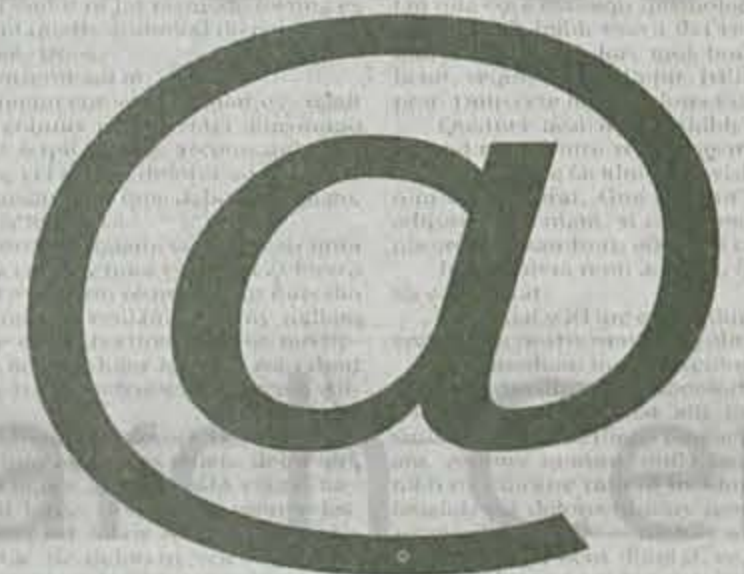
On December 21 the Vice President of Administration, Vincent Hunter, sent a mass email out to the Brown University community notifying them that the school is preparing to handle a possible avian flu pandemic. A task force has been set up at the school to monitor the flu and to keep abreast of any developments regarding the avian spread disease. A sign posted in the Health Services office advises students who may have recently traveled to some specific overseas countries to wear a mask if they begin to experience fevers or coughs. The university is also preparing for the possibilities of the pandemic by sending staff members to be trained in the operation shelters.

The Cotton Club "A Night on the Red Carpet" 2006!



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EOE

Department of Residence Life IMPORTANT RSVP ANNOUNCEMENT Housing Information for 2006-2007

DID YOU KNOW?

You can pay your RSVP Deposit ONLINE!

Students seeking housing for the 2006-2007 academic year are required to participate in RSVP.

Students who are validated for Spring 2006 will be able to make their payment through BISONWEB until February 3, 2006.

Visit www.howard.edu/residencelife to download the RSVP Informational Packet.

NOTE: Your \$200 deposit does not guarantee you housing.

Students who are currently receiving the Presidential, Laureate, Capstone, Founders, Upward Bound and Hartford Scholarships do not have to submit a RSVP deposit.

Church Pushes for Thurgood Marshall Sainthood

BY DANYELLE HADAWAY
Hilltop Staff Writer

There might be reason to break out the good silver and china on May 17, 2010: to celebrate Saint Thurgood Marshall Feast Day.

During the 111th annual convention, the Episcopal Diocese of Washington, D.C. nominated the civil rights icon and former Supreme Court justice Friday for sainthood consideration. The church requires two consecutive national votes to declare someone a saint, and the General Convention of the Episcopal Church only meets every three years.

Because of a scheduled convention this year, Marshall can be declared a saint as early as 2009.

But as Dean Bernard Richardson of the Andrew Rankin Memorial Chapel said, "there are different criterion for sainthood in different dominations." The Roman Catholic Church would have vigorously researched Marshall's life to determine at least two miracles

he performed alive or posthumously.

"Although many consider Marshall's victory in Brown v. Board of Education (the 1954 landmark case that desegregated public schools) a heroic accomplishment," according to diocesan spokesman James Naughton, said in a press release that no miracles are required for sainthood in the Episcopal Church.

Instead, candidates must have displayed traits of "heroic faith," joyousness and "service to others for Christ's sake," according to the Episcopal church guidelines.

Marshall, who died from heart failure at age 84 on Jan. 24, 1993, was the first African American to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court. Before that he was named to the U.S. Court of Appeals in New York and was chief counsel for the NAACP Legal Defense Fund. In addition to the Brown case, Marshall won six other Supreme Court cases during the 50s that lead to the desegregation of public parks, swimming pools, local



Rev. Martha Clarky (from left), retired Rev. Bruce Eberhardt, convention delegate Julian Trait and Janet Eberhardt of St. Augustine Episcopal Church in Washington, DC, are all leading the fight for Thurgood Marshall to achieve sainthood.

bus systems and athletic facilities.

Despite frequent threats of lynching and a kidnapping attempt in Florida, Marshall appeared in southern county courthouses repeatedly to support civil-rights lawyers and their clients. "I admire him for

his courage to stand tall and influence right when it wasn't popular to do so," said Gene Rice, a Howard professor of Old Testament language and literature.

At the convention, Marshall's wife, Cecilia Marshall, 78, said that her hus-

band "never thought of himself as a saint," considering the several times he declined to see the stained-glass window dedicated to him in San Francisco's Grace Cathedral.

"He never went to look at it. He felt he just wasn't worthy of it."

Cecilia Marshall said that although Marshall did not speak publicly about his faith, it meant a great deal to him. He had been attending St. Augustine's Church, which is supporting his candidacy of sainthood, since 1965.

Rice described a day when his church held a discussion on what a saint is. After nobody could come up with a definition, "a little girl in the choir looked through the church window that had saints [painted] on it and she said a saint is one that lets the light come through."

"In church we think of the light of God," Rice said. "In Thurgood Marshall's case, I think it's the light of truth and justice shone through him."

Marshall's name will go

before the church's legislative House of Bishops and House of Deputies at the 2006 General Convention in Columbus, Ohio in June, and then again before the 2009 convention. If Marshall is approved as a saint, his name would be the Episcopal Church's Calendar of Lesser Feasts and Fasts. His feast day would be May 17, the anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education.

Episcopal sainthood does not require that the candidate be a member of the Episcopal Church USA, the American branch of the worldwide Anglican Communion. The current list of Episcopal saints includes Baptists such as Martin Luther King and Methodist Sojourner Truth. Others include C.S. Lewis, Harriet Tubman, and Florence Nightingale.

However, a proposed resolution to prevent candidates from being considered for sainthood until 50 years after their deaths could thwart St. Augustine's plans.

U.S. Fights Ideology War

BY IMANI JOSEY
Contributing Writer

America is winning the war against terror, according to President Bush's recent State of the Union address. Bush cited the arrest of more than 3,000 key al Qaeda officials.

"We have the terrorists on the run. We're keeping them on the run. One by one, the terrorists are learning the meaning of American justice," Bush said.

The nature of the war in the Middle East has some believing that the war is not solely an armed conflict between nations, but also a war of ideology. A "war of ideology" is a war based on the integrated assertions, theories and aims that constitute a socio-political program. In the past this term was reserved for conflicts such as World War II and the Cold War.

The basis of these wars contained theories about "proper" systems of human life and culture.

Some Howard students do not truly understand the strategy of fighting wars of ideology. "How does someone truly fight a concept?" asks sophomore, international business major Natasha Boler. "It is true that many past conflicts have been based on humanistic theories,

but at the same time, it is difficult to focus on the true politics of the war when the personal theories of leaders are muffling it," Boler said.

Others make note of this question of motive. "When you see that our enemies are primarily an intellectual movement, not a terrorist army, you see why they are in no hurry," said New York Times Columnist David Brooks in "War of Ideology."

Following the years after the 2001 World Trade Center attacks, the 9/11 commission's 360 page report maintained that America has engaged in ideological warfare and that terrorism is, what Brooks worded as, "the means they use to win converts to their cause."

"As an ideological movement rather than a national or military one, [terrorists] can play by different rules. There is no territory they must protect. They never have to win a battle, but can instead profit in the realm of public opinion from the glorious martyrdom entailed in their defeats. We think the struggle is fought on the ground, but they know the struggle is really fought on satellite TV, and they are far more sophisticated than we are in using it," Brooks said.

According to Charles Jarmon, professor and asso-

ciate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Hitler and the Nazi regime during World War II used ideology to further their political agenda from 1933-1945.

"During World War II, Hitler's Nazi regime used their ideology of Aryan superiority as a justification for exterminating 6 million Jews in Europe," Jarmon said. He went on to add that, "Based on their thought of being a superior and dominant race, Hitler also used this as a justification of conquering smaller countries. Other countries, however, including some in Africa, fought against Nazism."

Freshman accounting major, Kendra Oates, also sees imperfections in the strategy of wars of ideology.

"So who are the real enemies? Someone's actions or someone's thoughts?" asked Oates. "I guess in the answer could be both because that is really what you do in wars: fight the politics of a country and the theories of their national leaders," Oates said.

To many students, like freshman Rona Matthew, the Cold War, is thought to be the most important example of a war of ideology.

"When I think of a war of ideology, I think of the Cold War. War never really broke out during this time, but it was always known that it could," Matthew said.

The Cold War was a period of tension between Eastern and Western national competition. Though the conflict did not escalate to full-scale war, it was characterized by mutual perceptions of hostile intentions between military-political alliances.

From about 1947-1991, the tensions existing between the United States and the Soviet Union were mainly over issues of capitalism. Matthews later added, "I think at the heart of it, just about all wars are wars of ideology whether they get the title or not. I mean, that's what people fight the most about, and put the most effort into. They believe their own thoughts about life and when those thoughts are challenged, insulted, or infringed upon, that will lead to a struggle. The only thing that one has to keep clear is seeing all aspects of war for what they really are, and to make sure the needs of the people are met."

Incarceration Rate Rises

BY NAOMI BRILEY
Contributing Writer

In his State of the Union address on Tuesday, President Bush declared a strengthened fight against illegal drugs, a declaration that some fear might drug sentencing of young black men.

"As a government, we are fighting illegal drugs by cutting off supplies and reducing demand through anti-drug education programs," Bush said.

Today, young black men go to jail more than any other group, and an overwhelming amount sentences are from drug-related charges.

In 1986, Congress set up mandatory minimum sentencing laws for drug-related crimes. When these laws were enacted, Congress also decided to establish separate penalties for different drugs.

Possession of powder cocaine and crack cocaine showed the largest disparity. Defendants convicted of selling 500 grams of powder cocaine and 5 grams of crack were to receive the same five-year sentence. The difference in punishment between the two substances is a 100 to 1 ratio.

"Crack cocaine should be subject to higher penalties than traffickers of like amounts of powder cocaine because of the differences in the manner in which the two drugs are ingested, and because the seller of the crack is well aware of its addictive qualities and the familial and community danger," reports a 1995 position report by the Department of Justice.

Although Congress wants to de-rail drug distribution and use, Monica Pratt, director of operations at the Families



Although only 13 percent of U.S. drug users are black, blacks make up 84.7 percent of those convicted of drug charges, according to the U.S. Sentencing Committee.

Against Mandatory Minimums Foundation says many grey areas were not considered.

"Congress might have meant well, but everything isn't in black and white, especially with an issue as complex as drug use and distribution. It doesn't matter; everyone will get five years with no concern for an individual's circumstances or situation," Pratt said.

Pratt also explained how the justice system changed because of the mandatory minimums laws.

"The mandatory minimum laws prohibited a judge from looking at an individual. You can appeal, but most of the power is in the hands of the prosecutor, whose job is to prosecute," Pratt said.

A 1996 study by the Journal of American Medicine Association (JAMA) proved that the physiological and psychoactive effects of the powder or crack form of cocaine are

the same.

The study also concluded that the federal sentencing guidelines for crack were excessive and that those who were addicted would be better off with treatment.

Although powder and crack cocaine are two forms of the same drugs, the law has very different affects on the black community.

A study by the U.S. Sentencing commission showed that while only 13 percent of the United States' drug users are black, blacks make up 84.7 percent of convicted drug offenders.

A report by the National Institute of Corrections revealed that even though there are five times more white drug users than blacks, blacks are incarcerated on drug charges 13.4 times more than whites.

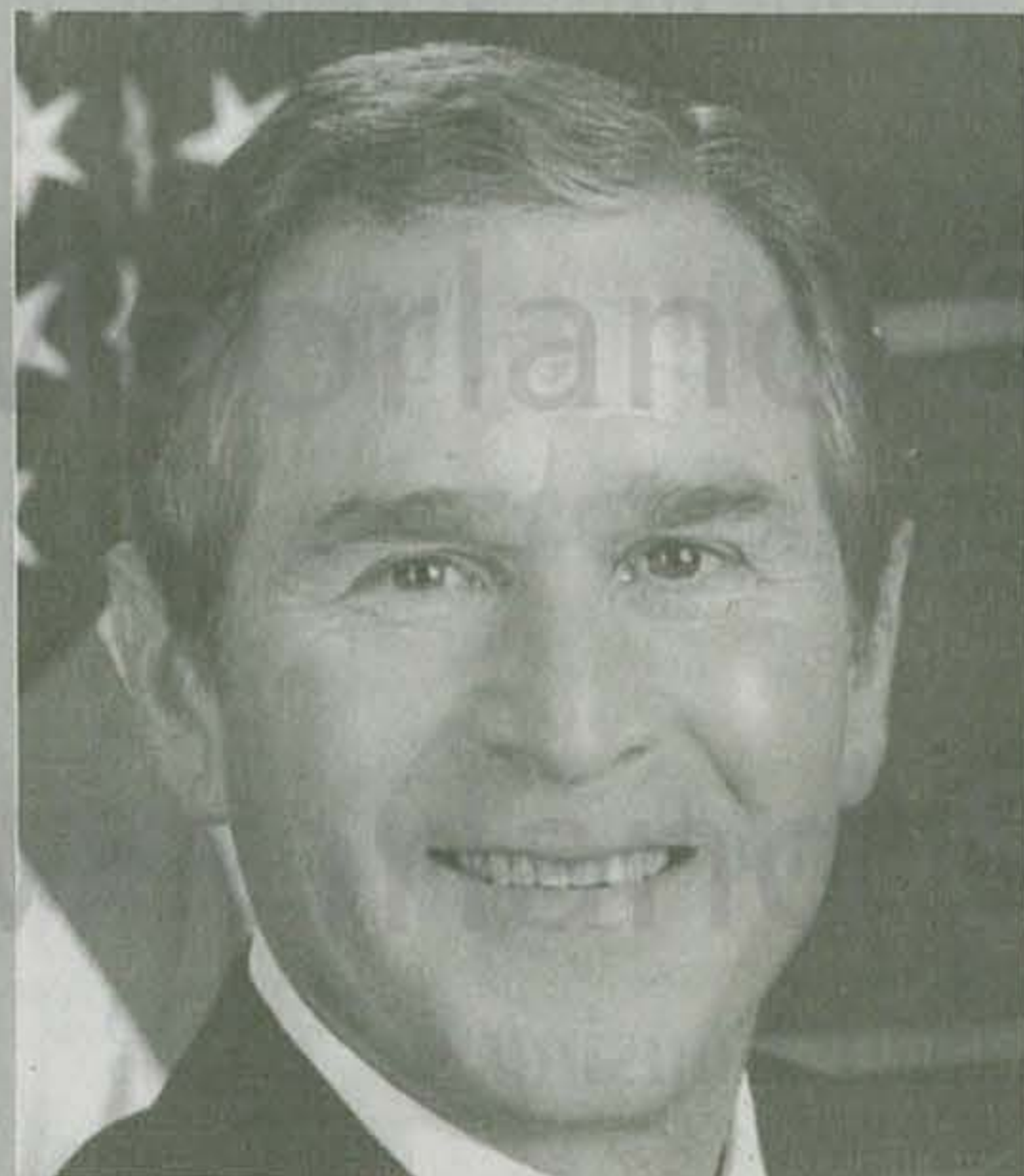
A report by the Justice Policy Institute in 2002 showed that 10.4 percent of African-American males ages 25-29 were incarcerated, by far the largest racial group compared to 2.4 percent of Hispanics and 1.2 percent of white men of the same age.

Raymond Metzger, a sophomore physical therapy major expressed his frustration.

"It's hard to see my brothers being locked up," he said. "This law just shows that racial discrimination still exists."

"As a government, we are fighting illegal drugs by cutting off supplies and reducing demand through anti-drug education programs."

- President George W. Bush



In his State of the Union address on Tuesday, Bush said that America is winning the war on terror. Some believe a war against ideology is more complicated.

**"EVEN MY GRANDMA
READS THE HILLTOP..."**

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Spring Joy Night

"Get In The SPIRIT"

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FRIDAY, February 3, 2006

@ 6:00 p.m.

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**Andrew Rankin Memorial Chapel
Howard University Main Campus**

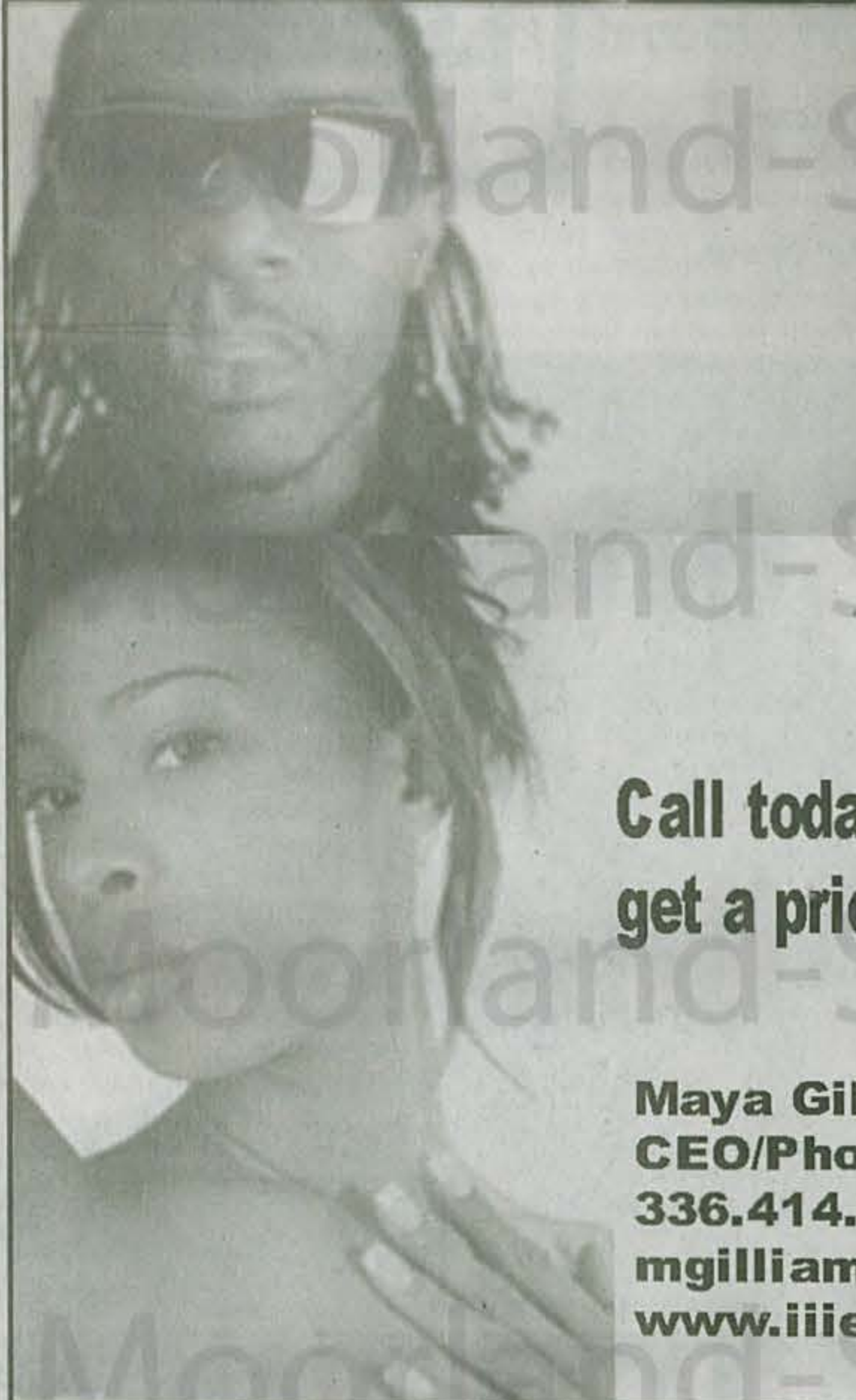
**Dance T. Henderson, President
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**Co-sponsored by the Andrew Rankin
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Dr. Bernard Richardson, Dean of the Chapel



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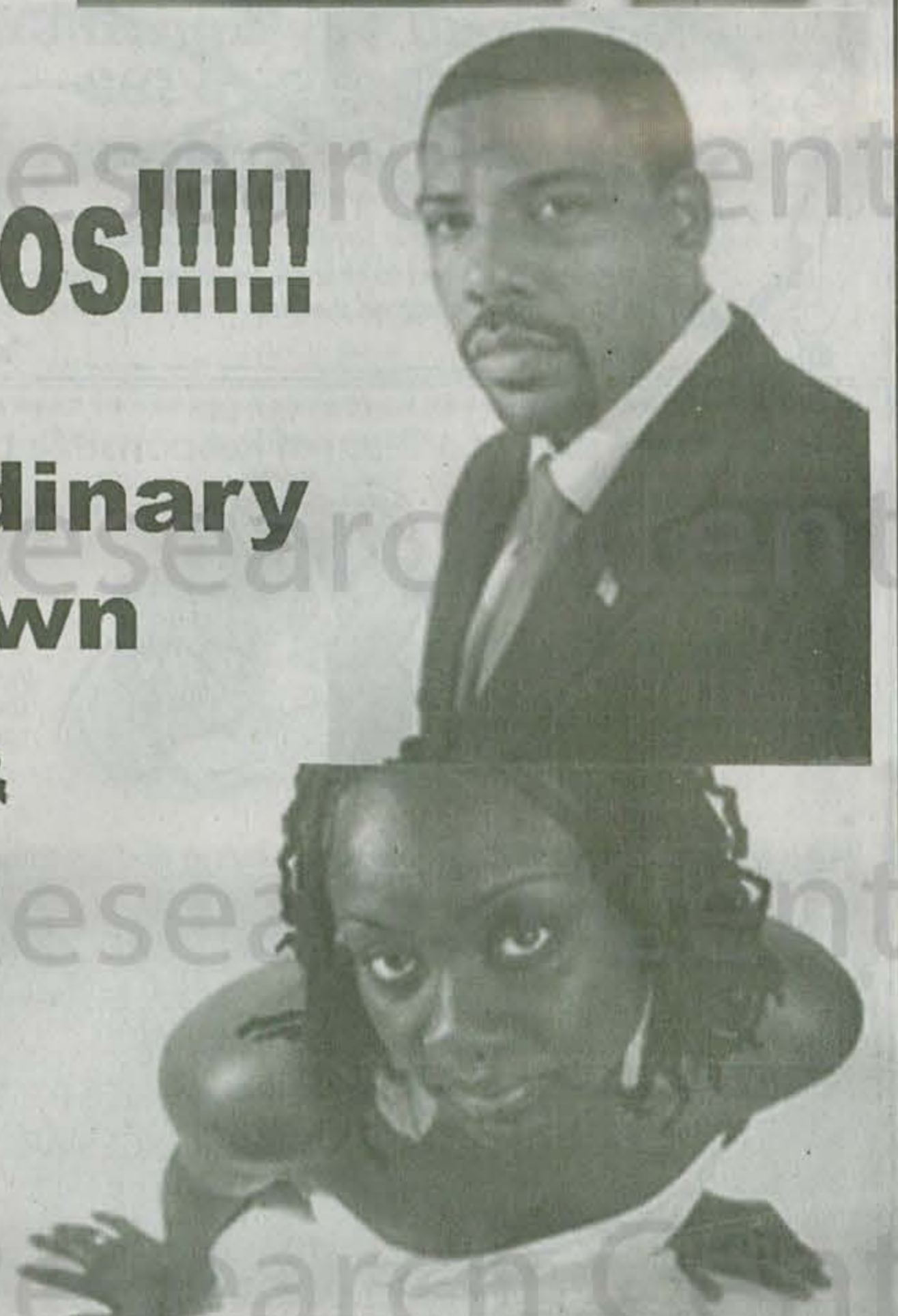


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BY
FRIDAY, MARCH 10, 2006

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When's the Super Bowl Again?

Usually, once the beginning of February hits, football fans across the country are hyped up and excited for their "favorite team." Even if their real favorite didn't make it to the grand finale at least one of the two winning teams can substitute. We know Pittsburgh Steelers fans are extremely thrilled because Pennsylvania has its share of sports towns. The P.A. spirit is alive and well when it comes to other teams too like the Eagles. Come on, we've all heard them do the chant. However, where did the Seattle Seahawks come from? Who is really rooting for them? Many Hilltoppers have a ho-hum attitude toward this year's Super Bowl. Of course

we will watch, but someone may have to throw in a scandal during half-time.

We know all of the Detroit-born Bison will be heading home for the big game along with other students going for the festivities. The weekend will have lots of parties, events and

other football munchies and enjoy the festivities.

The entertainment lineup is even more exciting (sarcasm) than the football lineup. Ladies and gentlemen, are you ready for the Rolling Stones? Mind you they may be legends in their own right, but that will instantly cause us to change the channel. Where are Janet and Justin Timberlake when you need them? If we seem too uninterested in the game for any readers, please tell us why we should be thrilled.

Hopefully we will be eating our words after Sunday passes, but if not here's an in advance "We told you so!" May the best team win.

Our View:

We aren't that excited about the game, the players or the entertainment this year.

activities to get into so hopefully students will take advantage of the Super Bowl spirit. For those of us watching at home, we will have to stock up on the nachos, the wing dings and

A "Compassionate, Decent, Hopeful Society?"

College Democrats' Response to State of the Union

Evan Brunson

Traditionally, the State of the Union address serves not only as a forum for the President to present an agenda, but also as a showcase for American idealism, ingenuity, and leadership. Unfortunately, viewers of this year's address were treated to mediocrity, partisanship, and a litany of failed ideas and cheap shots.

Presiding over the most sharply divided Congress in a generation, President Bush gave his address, presenting a real opportunity to take steps to bridge the ever-widening rift between the parties. Instead, Bush chose to shroud himself in the protective mantle of nationalist scare tactics by continuing to support the (always) dubious connection between the 9/11 terrorist attacks and Iraq. Bush then called for a continuation of his incompetent management of the war, and in a reach for the outermost edges of logic, stated that if his illicitly run domestic spying program had been functioning sooner, 9/11 could have been prevented.

At this point, Americans should ask themselves which is more disgraceful: the abuse of a national tragedy for political gain, or the fact that the cause of those 3,000 deaths is being manipulated to water down constitutional rights?

President Bush continued his disingenuous charade by stating, "...we must act in a spirit of good will and respect for one another, and I will do my part." He certainly has done his part. Whether it has been labeling those who oppose his policies as "unpatriotic," using the religious beliefs of citizens to divide and exploit them or setting the fire for an anti-gay witch hunt, President Bush has truly shown goodwill toward those who think just like him.

Continuing this travesty, President Bush went on to expound upon the importance of science, and committed to doubling the amount of government funding in most areas of research. However, researchers in the fields of genetics, stem cell research or environmental science might question his commitment. So may science teachers who have watched him advocate the corruption of science curricula nationwide by replac-

ing evolution-based science with the teaching of creationism. It should be of particular interest to Howard University students that science, a field in which African-Americans and Hispanic Americans are direly underrepresented, is no longer a required course in Washington, D.C. public elementary schools.

While President Bush's heart may lie in science, he needs remedial accounting more than anything else. Though the nation faces a budget deficit of \$437 billion for the 2005 fiscal year and a national debt of over \$8 trillion, President Bush continues to push for his tax cuts to be made permanent. Bush has left no trust fund unfilled as the U.S. continues to mortgage its future.

While the pageantry, tradition and spectacle of a State of the Union address is always interesting, this one can be classified as an utter atrocity. President Bush got one thing right: he closed by saying, "Before history is written in books, it is written in courage." Unfortunately for American citizens, when the book on the Bush Era is written, courage will be noticeably missing.

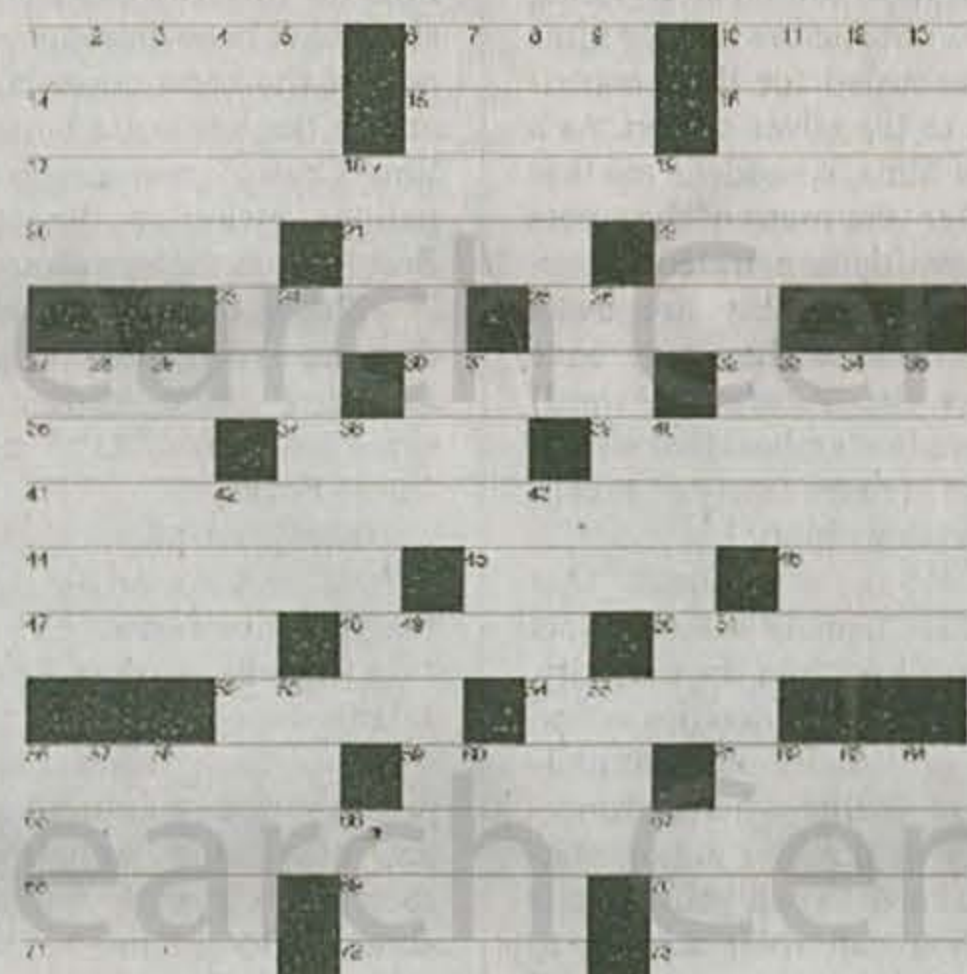
2/02/06 ON YOUR FEET by Doug Peterson, edited by Stanley Newman

Across

- 1 Rustic abode
- 6 Bit of reprieve
- 10 Pulverize
- 14 Lone Star State landmark
- 15 Aunt bene
- 16 Nevada city
- 17 Makes enemies, in a way
- 20 Visibility reducer
- 21 Unfairly distort
- 22 Is worthy of
- 23 Use finger paint
- 25 Countess' husband
- 27 Wins at chess
- 30 Pan-mutual postings
- 32 Corporate ID
- 36 Shew to a seat, slangily
- 37 Bat Mascaron prop
- 39 Order taker
- 41 Fast food symbol
- 44 Burger topping
- 45 Lintest littermate
- 46 Rock producer Brian
- 47 Blossom holder
- 48 Fingerboard ridge
- 50 Plastic wrap
- 52 Novel ending
- 54 Puns into words
- 56 Gradient
- 59 CNN anchor
- 61 2000 World Series venue
- 65 Sat and waited
- 68 Actress Paquin
- 69 Pt. of UPI
- 70 From Cork
- 71 Statistical calculation
- 72 Orange throwaway
- 73 Getsideracked

Down

- 1 Tilt fill
- 2 Utah ski resort
- 3 Folk singer Joan
- 4 Obstruct
- 5 Discouraging words
- 6 High yield investment
- 7 If not
- 8 Bamboozled
- 9 Floppy lid
- 10 Like zirconium or zinc
- 11 Very much
- 12 ___ Ball
- 13 "Bonanza" role
- 18 Buckeyes' sch.
- 19 Miss the mark
- 24 Knotted scarf
- 26 Dam on the Nile
- 27 Poches sans pedigrees
- 28 Give it ___ (try)
- 29 Unifying idea
- 31 Caterpillar competitor
- 33 Survey option
- 34 Davis of "Commander in Chief"
- 35 Bean or Welles
- 38 High above
- 40 Bohemian
- 42 Coach's tactics



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The Hilltop encourages its readers to share their opinions with the newspaper through letters to The Editor or Perspectives. All letters should include a complete address and telephone number and should be sent electronically on our website at www.thehilltoponline.com.

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Life & Style... In My Own Words

BY ERICA WILLIAMS
Life & Style Editor

It's one of the biggest, if not the biggest, night for actors, actresses, producers and directors. Since the first academy awards were handed out in 1929, viewers have anticipated seeing their favorite actors and/or films being awarded for their contribution to the silver screen. As a lover of films, it saddens me that year after year many of the actors who have demonstrated exceptional acting ability are overlooked because they may have not met the "Academy Award" standard (a standard that clearly consists of more than just exceptional acting ability.)

While I will admit that minorities usually direct or act in fewer films than the majority, the amount of minorities nominated is usually substantially low. So low that when a minority actor or director is nominated, you have to call your friends who then call their friends to tell them the exciting news; and many times that one, two, or three actor/actors is all that we have to hold on to when the big night arrives.

Although, over the years we have seen a slow progression, the hope that the Academy Awards will consist of at least a hand-full of minorities, particularly African Americans, seems to become more and more of a fantasy. After all, we've seen exceptional performances from actors/actresses like Sanaa Lathan, Taye Diggs, Don Cheadle, Jada Pinkett Smith, Vivica Fox, Queen Latifah, and Nia Long for years. They've definitely topped my list of some of the best actors and have received rave reviews for their talents. However, many of them will never see an Oscar unless they get lucky and meet the "must-give-a minority film-or actor-an-award" category.

Some minority actors and actresses work just as hard as others and have demonstrated that they can be versatile in their acting ability. We laughed with Taye Diggs and Sanaa Lathan in *Brown Sugar*, we cried with Don Cheadle in *Hotel Rwanda*, and we've seen Nia Long go from girl in the hood to a budding, talented actress. So where has the rest of America been? They had to have witnessed these exceptional acting abilities. I can almost understand that the masses were less receptive to watch the movies geared towards the younger black community (like *Baby Boy*, now you know that would have never received an Oscar, let alone a nomination).

However, the actors and actresses I listed above have demonstrated their talent in a wide array of movies, even those consisting of mainly white actors, producers, and directors; and in my opinion they did wonderfully. So was America sleeping when these actors were on the screen? Of course not. They saw when Halle made love to a white man and when Denzel was a crooked cop/thug (two performances that, by the way, ranked low on my Halle and Denzel movie list.); and honestly could America have really been sleeping when Morgan Freeman was alongside Ashley Judd in almost every good suspense movie that has come out in the past few years? Once again, I think not.

So if the acting ability is there and there are enough awards to go around, what seems to be the issue? The issue is the "Academy Award standard." A standard that seems to be either blind or unjust.

So while we almost wanted to cry with Halle when she won her award or shout last year when Jamie Foxx gave his accepting speech, this year's nominations are in, and once again we have that one actor that we're holding on to; so Good Luck Terrence Howard!

Howard Seeking Best Actor Award for 78th Oscar Awards

BY STEVEN REDHEAD
Contributing Writer

Once again it's that time of the year when actors, actresses, filmmakers and musicians alike are put on the spotlight for their biggest achievements of the past months: the Academy Awards.

As of January 31, the nominees for the 78th annual award show have been announced, and one of the most received nods are for the late 2004 Lions Gate film "Crash," garnering 6 nominations including the coveted Best Motion Picture award.

This is one of the few films that are nominated this year featuring black leading roles since last year's "Ray," starring Jamie Foxx.

The critically acclaimed "Crash" features an all-star cast that includes Terrance Howard, Don Cheadle, Larenz Tate, and Atlanta-based rapper Ludacris.

The film, which encompasses various subtopics involving racism and prejudice perspectives, currently has gained almost \$80 million worldwide in the box office.

To further add, one of its leading actors has a nomination of his own. Terrance Howard is also nominated for best leading performance in the Paramount

Classics/MTV Films project "Hustle & Flow," which also features Ludacris, respectively.

Last year, African American actors & actresses were given recognition for their outstanding performances. Notably, Jamie Foxx and Morgan Freeman came home with trophies from their work on the Ray Charles biopic "Ray" and the Warner Bros. juggernaut "Million Dollar Baby." Meanwhile, Don Cheadle, Will Smith, and the late Tupac Shakur secured nominations for Oscars last year.

Howard students share appreciation for this year's nominations. In particular, the movie "Crash," because of its "raw" interpretation of racism.

"I think it's great because it depicts all types of discrimination and racism," says Sondra Spaulding, a junior political science major. "It made people aware of what is going on in our society."

Carla Thomas, a junior print journalism major, agrees with Spaulding. "I think it is an exceptional movie with a very diverse cast. I'm glad that Hollywood can open its mind to different types of films."

"Crash" was considered by many as an original piece of



Photo Courtesy of www.vhl.com

Terrance Howard, who was in the best movie nominee, "Crash," was nominated for a best actor award for "Hustle & Flow."

work that took a risk in exposing things that people hold to themselves subconsciously.

"I think that it's great that it got so much mainstream recognition, and it took an unusual approach to a common topic," says senior film major Candice McCollough.

African Americans have praised the movie for showing not only discrimination against themselves, but also for other races that are commonly mistreated in the post 9/11 era.

Junior African-American studies major Omare Kinsey shares his opinion. "It was the

only major market film this year that allowed people to think about their own actions, especially black people."

The Academy Awards hadn't had a trophy for an African American in a leading role in years, until 2002, in which actors Denzel Washington and Halle Berry both won the top acting awards.

This was a first for an African American to win an award in 19 years since Sidney Poitier won for Best Actor in a motion picture in 1963.

In that same year of Washington and Berry's achievements, Sidney Poitier was given an Honorary Lifetime Achievement Award.

So who will end up with the coveted golden trophy in 2006 this year? There are many contenders to Crash, including the homosexual romance film "Brokeback Mountain" with its 8-time nominated reign.

Terrence Howard also has his fair share of contenders including actor Joaquin Phoenix for his role in "Walk the Line".

The 78th annual Academy Awards will broadcast on Sunday, March 5. Stay tuned to see who comes out on top!



Lil Flip found Guilty of Copyright Infringement

Rapper Lil Flip and Sony BMG Music Entertainment have been found guilty of copyright infringement. In 2004 Tommy L. Granville, a songwriter and music producer in Shreveport, Louisiana, sued Lil Flip. Granville accused Lil Flip of using three of his melodies on his major label debut, *Undaground Legend*.

The jury's verdict found Lil Flip, Suckafree Records, Sony BMG Entertainment, Columbia Records, Loud Records, Lucky Publishing and Hobbs Publishing of willingly violating



Photo Courtesy of www.arbl.com

Sean "Diddy" Combs to Throw Super bowl Extravaganza

Known for his extravagant parties, Sean "Diddy" Combs is now planning a lavish Super Bowl Weekend in Detroit, Mich. According to allhiphop.com, Combs will renovate Detroit's Captain's Bar & Grille's floor to host, 2,500 VIP Super Bowl fans.

Performances from Young Jeezy, Bun B, can be seen during this event. Tickets for Diddy's Super Bowl extravaganza range from \$150.00 to \$28,000 for the weekend.



Photo Courtesy of www.phylaxeta.com

It's a Boy and a Girl! Angela Bassett Has Twins

Actress Angela Bassett and her husband, actor Courtney B. Vance welcomed twins on Monday January 30, 2006. The babies were born to surrogate mother and are in healthy condition. Bassett and Vance have been married for eight years.



Photo Courtesy of www.timeunion.com

New Orleans's Jazz Fest Still Taking Place

According to Yahoo Entertainment, the 2006 New Orleans's Jazz and Heritage Fest will go on as usual in New Orleans's. The fest is one of New Orleans's major tourist attractions, with the average annual attendance being roughly 500,000.

Despite, post Katrina damages and effects; the festival will take place at its usual location, the Fair Grounds horseracing track. The event will take place on the last weekend of April and the first weekend in May.



Photo Courtesy of www.nojff.org

Model Kate Moss Faces Britain Police

According to Yahoo Entertainment, detectives in London about her alleged cocaine use interviewed model Kate Moss. Moss has been out of Britain since the drug allegations, visiting a rehab clinic in Arizona.

Since the allegations, Moss has lost valuable contracts with Burberry, Chanel and H&M. The allegations surfaced in September 2005 after pictures were published of her allegedly using cocaine in a London music studio.



Photo Courtesy of www.fpl.com

Compiled by Erica Williams, Life & Style Editor
Information courtesy of www.allhiphop.com and www.yahoo.com

And the Nominees Are... 2006 Academy Awards Nominations

PERFORMANCE BY AN ACTOR IN A LEADING ROLE

Philip Seymour Hoffman in "Capote" (UA/Sony Pictures Classics)
Terrence Howard in "Hustle & Flow" (Paramount Classics, MTV Films and New Deal Entertainment)
Heath Ledger in "Brokeback Mountain" (Focus Features)
Joaquin Phoenix in "Walk the Line" (20th Century Fox)
David Strathairn in "Good Night, and Good Luck." (Warner Independent Pictures)

PERFORMANCE BY AN ACTRESS IN A LEADING ROLE

Judi Dench in "Mrs. Henderson Presents" (The Weinstein Company)
Felicity Huffman in "Transamerica" (The Weinstein Company and IFC Films)
Keira Knightley in "Pride & Prejudice" (Focus Features)
Charlize Theron in "North Country" (Warner Bros.)
Reese Witherspoon in "Walk the Line" (20th Century Fox)

PERFORMANCE BY AN ACTOR IN A SUPPORTING ROLE

George Clooney in "Syriana" (Warner Bros.)
Matt Dillon in "Crash" (Lions Gate)
Paul Giamatti in "Cinderella Man" (Universal and Miramax)
Jake Gyllenhaal in "Brokeback Mountain" (Focus Features)
William Hurt in "A History of Violence" (New Line)

PERFORMANCE BY AN ACTRESS IN A SUPPORTING ROLE

Amy Adams in "Junebug" (Sony Pictures Classics)
Catherine Keener in "Capote" (UA/Sony Pictures Classics)
Frances McDormand in "North Country" (Warner Bros.)
Rachel Weisz in "The Constant Gardener" (Focus Features)
Michelle Williams in "Brokeback Mountain" (Focus Features)

BEST MOTION PICTURE OF THE YEAR

"Brokeback Mountain" (Focus Features)
A River Road Entertainment Production
Diana Ossana and James Schamus, Producers
"Capote" (UA/Sony Pictures Classics)
An A-Line Pictures/Cooper's Town/Infinity Media Production
Caroline Baron, William Vince and Michael Ohoven, Producers

"Crash" (Lions Gate)
A Bob Yari/DEJ/Blackfriar's Bridge/Harris Company/ApolloProscreen GmbH & Co./Bull's Eye Entertainment Production
Paul Haggis and Cathy Schulman, Producers
"Good Night, and Good Luck." (Warner Independent Pictures)
A Good Night Good Luck LLC Production
Grant Heslov, Producer
"Munich" (Universal and DreamWorks)
A Universal Pictures/DreamWorks Pictures Production
Kathleen Kennedy, Steven Spielberg and Barry Mendel, Producers

ACHIEVEMENT IN DIRECTING

"Brokeback Mountain" (Focus Features)
Ang Lee
"Capote" (UA/Sony Pictures Classics)
Bennett Miller
"Crash" (Lions Gate)
Paul Haggis
"Good Night, and Good Luck." (Warner Independent Pictures)
George Clooney
"Munich" (Universal and DreamWorks)
Steven Spielberg

ACHIEVEMENT IN MUSIC WRITTEN FOR MOTION PICTURES (ORIGINAL SCORE)

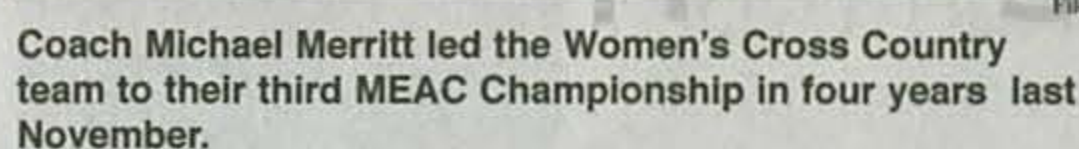
"Brokeback Mountain" (Focus Features) Gustavo Santaolalla
"The Constant Gardener" (Focus Features) Alberto Iglesias
"Memoirs of a Geisha" (Sony Pictures Releasing) John Williams
"Munich" (Universal and DreamWorks) John Williams
"Pride & Prejudice" (Focus Features) Dario Marianelli

ACHIEVEMENT IN MUSIC WRITTEN FOR MOTION PICTURES (ORIGINAL SONG)

"In the Deep" from "Crash" (Lions Gate)
Music by Kathleen "Bird" York and Michael Becker
Lyric by Kathleen "Bird" York
"It's Hard Out Here for a Pimp" from "Hustle & Flow" (Paramount Classics, MTV Films and New Deal Entertainment)
Music and Lyric by Jordan Houston, Cedric Coleman and Paul Beauregard
"Travelin' Thru" from "Transamerica" (The Weinstein Company and IFC Films)
Music and Lyric by Dolly Parton

BY MATTHEW COOPER
Contributing Writer

Merritt is an alumnus of Mount Saint Mary's college, where he ran the 400 and 800 meters.



He has done that so far. He has led the women's track team to MEAC championships three of the last four years.

"They always ask him for food, and he gets on them good for that," said Assistant coach Grigsby.

"I recruit against Duke, Stanford, and Harvard, not

"The potential here is great. It's like a sleeping giant waiting to wake up."



- Dennis Washington, '06

Compiled by Caryn Grant, Sports Editor

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